

COMMENT OF
THE DAY

Inner Conflicts

LOOKING at the turn of the year, at Russia and her satellites in Eastern Europe, one has a growing sense of uneasiness and uncertainty. Although much evidence is hidden, there are many visible signs that all is far from well and that the new internal policies, from which so much was hoped and promised in 1953, have failed to produce the anticipated results. One sure sign of anxieties and inner conflicts inside the topmost circles of the regime has always been purging, "unmasking" plots and conspiracies. The familiar pattern is being reproduced. In the Soviet Union Viktor Abakumov, Minister of State for Security from 1946 to 1952 has been tried and with three others has been executed. Abakumov had been dismissed from his office 18 months before the death of Stalin and now nearly four years later he is suddenly tried and sentenced for having been associated with Beria in malpractices in 1948 or 1949. In Poland Stanislaw Radkiewicz, Minister of Public Security and head of the political police since the end of the war, has been removed from that key post. In Hungary the release of Mr. Noel Field is accompanied by announcements that secret police have been guilty of false convictions and that "grave mistakes" are to be "liquidated." The security system both in the Soviet Union and in the satellites is being overhauled. That, in Communist states, is always a symptom of internal trouble. And it seems reasonable enough to suppose that one of the causes of the trouble is the failure of the new course to produce the promised plenty of food and consumer goods and at the same time maintain output of capital goods at a high level.

THERE has certainly been in Russia a considerable increase in the quantity of consumer goods available, but prices are high and quality poor. The Government has been casting around for somebody to blame. Ministers have been accused of inefficiency and now it has been found that one cause of the trouble is serious shortcomings in organisational structure and excess staff in the administrative system. Thousands of workers are being combed out for manual labour. But the whole plan is plainly dictated by the feeling that something urgent and drastic has to be done to increase production. Post-Stalin economic programmes have not solved the problems of under-production which keep Soviet standards of living low and which embarrassingly conflict with Marxist theory. So too, in the satellites. Premier Nagy of Hungary complains that the programmes for 1953 have been incompletely carried out and threatens severe measures against the culprits. The Party secretary states that "things are far from being all in order." That seems a fair summary of the position, not only in his own country but in all Communist Europe. What effect will this have on the foreign policy of the Soviet Government? Now that Mr. Molotov's efforts to prevent the integration of Western Europe have apparently failed (with what effect one wonders on his personal prestige?) there has to be a re-appraisal in Moscow. Carrying out his threat to step up Soviet armaments seems hardly possible without a drastic lowering of the standard of living. On the other hand any move to step down the cold war seems hardly likely. For it is at times of stress that dictatorships have most need of external tensions—both as an excuse and as a distraction. What is sure in this new assessment of the international situation and in any reconsideration of Soviet policy is that Mr. Molotov will necessarily be largely influenced by economic and social conditions now obtaining in Russia and the satellites.

GRAND FIGHT BY ENGLAND

Peter May Fails To Reach 100

WARDLE HAS A MERRY KNOCK

Melbourne, Jan. 4.
England is fighting desperately for a commanding position in the crucial third Test match in Melbourne now in its fourth day. Peter May 83 last night missed his century by nine runs this morning, and then Compton and Evans went in quick succession leaving England six wickets down for 211.

Then in came Johnny Wardle, Yorkshire spin bowler, and in a short stay at the wicket hit the Australian bowling all over the field. The crowd of 50,000 roared their approval at his merry knock. In one over, he hit 14 runs off Ian Johnson, including three fours. But Johnson got his revenge when he bowled in the next over for 38 runs. Bailey batted cautiously and very, very slowly to score 14 runs not out up to the time the China Mail went to Press.

Bill Johnston started the fourth day of the third Test match by taking the wicket of Peter May after England had added only 14 runs to the overnight total of 159 for three. May, requiring only nine to reach his century, was clean bowled by Johnston—and England was four down for 173, or 133 ahead of Australia with six wickets standing.

Australia struck again 12 runs later when Maddocks made a low catch as Compton tried to cover drive Archer. The retiring batsman's contribution was a carefully-complied 23. FIVE LEFT
England, 185 for five, was now 145 ahead with five more wickets left. A crowd estimated at over 50,000 watched the play in terrific heat. Commentators said the pitch was "still playing well." Evans was out to a good catch by Maddocks off Miller in the second over after lunch for 22.—Reuter.

England 1st Innings: 191
Australia 1st Innings: 231
England—2nd Innings
Len Hutton, lbw b. Archer 42
Bill Edrich, bowled Johnston 13
Peter May, bowled Johnston 91
Colin Cowdrey, bowled 7
Benaud 9
Denis Compton, c. Maddocks b. Archer 23
Bailey, not out 14
Evans, c. Maddocks b. Miller 22
Wardle, b. Johnston 38
Extras 7
Total: Seven wickets for 280

Groundsman Denies Watering Test Pitch

Melbourne, Jan. 3.
Mr. Jack House, the head groundsman who prepared the Melbourne wicket for the third Test between England and Australia, tonight denied reports that the pitch had been illegally watered during Sunday. The reports arose from the mysterious improvement in the character of the wicket on the third day of the game today. Saturday's play had seen the pitch baked hard and taking spin, but today it did not take spin until late in the day. Mr. House said the dampness of the pitch when play started today resulted from the ground sweating under the covers during the hot night. The covers were taken off from 7 a.m. to 6.15 p.m., on Sunday and the pitch was never left unattended, he added.

German Diplomat Suspended

Bonn, Jan. 3.
The West German Charge d'Affaires in London was suspended from his post today after his former Beauty Queen wife made a speech labelling Britain an "enemy" country. The offending remark was made in a Christmas speech to members of the German Embassy in London by the wife of the Charge d'Affaires Oskar Schlitter. After a preliminary meeting between Herr Schlitter and the Foreign Office personnel chief, Dr. Joseph Lorenz, at noon, the Foreign Office announced that Herr Schlitter had offered his resignation from the diplomatic service and had been suspended from his job pending an investigation ordered by the State Secretary, Walter Hallstein.—United Press.

Dog Gets False Teeth For Xmas

Sydney, Jan. 3.
"Locy," a mongrel dog of Newton, New South Wales, has a set of false teeth, replacing five knocked out by an irate motor-cyclist in 1951. Locy's owner, Mr. Arthur Davis, had the dental plate made specially as a Christmas gift, but gave it to his pet early so that he could get used to it.—China Mail Special.

EDENS MEET HAMMARSKJOLD



Mr. Hammarskjold, Secretary-General of the United Nations is welcomed at Darnleywood, Bucks, by Sir Anthony Eden, the Foreign Secretary, and Lady Eden, when he went there straight from London Airport last week.—Reuterphoto.

ARCTIC WINDS BRING FREEZING WEATHER TO EUROPE

London, Jan. 3.
Icy winds sweeping down from the Arctic Circle today brought Europe its coldest weather this winter.

Snow covered Western Europe from Northern Italy to the Baltic Sea coast.

Britain experienced the lowest temperature of the winter when the thermometer recorded 30 degrees below zero. In Norway it was just above zero.

But Scandinavia was colder. In Southern Lapland it was 22 degrees below zero. In Norway it was just above zero.

Temperatures hovered around the zero mark in Austria, but shivering citizens were glad because it reduced the danger of avalanches.

However, slight snow falls were reported in the upper reaches of the Alps.

Northern Italy reported heavy snowfalls, and light snow fell near Rome for a few hours last night. Mt. Vesuvius, 150 miles to the south, sported a gay white cap for the first time in many years.

PLANE NOT DAMAGED
At Shannon, Ireland, high winds blew the Royal aircraft carrier into the airport runway and its long wings are expected to block the runway for several hours until it can be towed away.

The Canopus, a BOAC Stratocruiser, is to fly Princess Margaret to Bermuda next month at the start of her Caribbean tour. It flew Queen Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh on the first leg of their round-the-world tour last year. The plane was not damaged.

McCarthy Hands Over To A Democrat

Washington, Jan. 3.
Senator Joseph McCarthy today ended two years' activities against Communist subversion as chief of the Senate investigating Subcommittee with "both relief and regret." He handed over his office as Chairman to Senator John McClellan, a Democrat, as a result of the Democratic Party's victory in mid-term elections last November.

Senator McCarthy, who will remain on the committee as an ordinary member, told reporters he hoped his successor would "dig out subversives as vigorously as we have in the past."

Senator McCarthy had headed a Government Operations Committee which was succeeded by the investigating subcommittee in January 1953.

SWEDISH DIPLOMAT FOUND DEAD ON RAILWAY LINE

Dijon, France, Jan. 3.
The Swedish Minister to Mexico, Mr. Sven Grafstrom, who recently headed the Swedish delegation to the Truce Commission in Korea, fell to his death today from the Cote d'Azur-Paris overnight express train.

Early police investigations indicated that he had fallen accidentally from the speeding train.

He was last seen entering his sleeping compartment on the train taking him to Paris from a Riviera vacation.

Dutch, Chinese Sign Contracts For \$650,000

Contracts valued at about \$650,000 were signed by Dutch businessmen and Chinese officials in Peking last month, during the first trade contacts between the two countries since the Communists came to power in China.

This was disclosed by Mr. C. J. Schaap, Chairman of the visiting group of Dutch businessmen to China, this morning.

He arrived in Hongkong yesterday with two members of the group, Messrs A. A. Kappers and C. E. 't Hoen. He added that this figure was the last which was brought to his notice prior to his departure.

Some additional transactions were awaiting telegraphic confirmation by Holland, while a member of the group was still in Peking, concluding his business. The rest of the group decided to spend some time in Shanghai.

Mr. Schaap revealed that members of his group sold pharmaceuticals, chemical oils, chemicals and rayon yarn to the Chinese, who balanced the exchange to a fair extent with native produce, animal by-products and tea.

The Chinese were accessible to the group's requests for direct sales on modification of terms of contract and method of payment. Mr. Schaap said, and he considered the outcome of the visit "satisfactory."

Jimmy Swaine To Join RN After All (But As A Writer)

Liverpool, Jan. 4.
Nineteen-year-old Jimmy Swaine from Hongkong will join the British Navy today as a writer, although he travelled 12,000 miles to sign on as electrician.

His life-long ambition was shattered when Navy doctors told him his eyesight was not good enough and a private eye list has now told him he is colour blind. Six months ago in Hongkong a Navy doctor told him he was completely fit.

Mrs. Bessie Braddock, Labour MP who took up Jimmy's case, is to ask in Parliament that people in his position should, in future, be able to get expert medical advice before leaving home to join up.—Reuter.

Revolutionary Jet Engine Developed

Philadelphia, Jan. 3.
A lighter and more powerful jet engine than any now in use has been invented by Private Simon Wattman, aged 25. The Army authorities stated here today.

Private Wattman, a former University of Pennsylvania student, has been granted a Government patent on the engine, said to be in direct opposition to the current trend in jets which is to make them much more involved in an effort to increase their speed.

The young inventor's idea enables a plane with his jet turbo-jet combination, to achieve greater speed without becoming too heavy and more complicated.

He claims his engine could be developed into a compact light and powerful unit and a relatively inexpensive one which could be the answer to the development of a new light weight jet engine.—Reuter.

Rail Strike Threat: Cabinet To Meet

London, Jan. 3.
Sir Winston Churchill tonight called a Cabinet meeting for tomorrow morning to discuss chiefly the threat of a nation-wide rail strike including underground railway services.

The Prime Minister summoned this Cabinet meeting—the first of the new year—as leaders of 400,000 British railworkers completed plans for a pay claim strike beginning at midnight next Sunday.

The union chiefs—members of the Executive of the National Union of Railwaymen—made it plain today that with six days to "zero hour", their attitude was hardening.

They reiterated their determination to carry the strike through if their claims for wage increases is not met by the Transport Commission, operators of the state-owned rail system.

COURT'S REPORT
As the union leaders planned their nation-wide stoppage, which would speedily hamstring the country's economy, three members of a Government Court of Inquiry were working round the clock to prepare a Government report which offers the only hope of averting the strike.

They are expected to rush through an emergency interim report on the dispute to Sir Walter Monckton, Minister of Labour, on Wednesday.

The Minister will have to publish by Thursday with the Executive of the N.U.R. will meet to decide their attitude to the report.

The stoppage would be Britain's first nationwide rail strike since half a million men took part in a nine-day stoppage in 1919 although railwaymen did join Britain's national strike in 1926.

UNDERGROUND SERVICES
The N.U.R. is seeking wage increases of between 8 and 10 shillings a week for all rail workers except drivers, firemen and clerical workers. The Transport Commission said "if the union offers them."

The N.U.R. Executive today considered strike arrangements and appointed committees to organise the stoppage. They also completed plans for the issue of strike pay of roughly £700,000 a week.

Hope that London underground railway services would not be affected by a rail strike fell tonight when separate wage claim talks affecting underground workers, scheduled for mid-week were postponed indefinitely at the union's request.—Reuter.

Attlee: 72 Today

London, Jan. 3.
Mr. Clement Attlee, British Labour Party leader, celebrated his 72nd birthday today.—United Press.

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The Adventures of **JIAJUI BABA**

CARIBBEAN HURRICANE

First Off-Season Storm Since Columbus

WEATHER MEN CAUGHT OFF BALANCE

Miami, Jan. 3.

A small off-season hurricane, the first ever recorded in the West Indies during January, swung its 75-mile-an-hour winds into the Caribbean today to threaten tropic shipping.

The howler, with winds barely reaching hurricane strength, caught weathermen by surprise as it rumbled along on a southwesterly course at 10 miles per hour into Caribbean waters.

Never before had a hurricane been officially noted in the Caribbean in January, although Christopher Columbus logged a violent storm in February 462 years ago.

The new storm was located at noon by an Air Force reconnaissance plane about 100 miles south-southeast of the island of St. Croix or about 1,400 miles southeast of Miami.

The "eye" of the storm, named Alice for the first hurricane of 1955, was only 12 miles in diameter and the blow packed hurricane force winds over a very small area.

A Navy hurricane hunter plane from Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, was scheduled to scout the storm.

Shipping in the northeast Caribbean was advised to proceed with caution and small craft in the Virgin Islands and Northern Leeward Islands were advised to remain in port.

But weather forecasters expected the hurricane, apparently born in a low pressure area which drifted down from the north and settled in the West Indies, to dissipate when it collides with colder air before threatening the U.S. mainland.

The months of January to May had long been considered to be free of hurricanes in the Caribbean and the huge hurricane warning net centered at Miami was dismantled as usual at the end of the regular June-November season.

OFF ALERT

The Navy also had taken its famous hurricane hunter squadron at Jacksonville, Florida, off the 24-hour alert maintained during the five months when the howlers are most prevalent.

Christopher Columbus apparently knew "which way the wind was blowing," however.

DA LAI LAMA ON TOUR

London, Jan. 3.

The spiritual leader of Tibet, the Dalai Lama, left Peking today to tour China, the Communist New China News Agency said. He was accompanied by his sister and Tibetan officials.

The Dalai Lama has been in China since the summer, Reuters.

U.S. Road Toll Mounts

New York, Jan. 3.

At least 361 persons were killed during the New Year holiday week-end in the United States. The toll included 293 road deaths.

The fatalities tallied 27 compared with the 63 reported during the Christmas holiday.

The traffic toll was substantially lower than that of Christmas week-end, when 392 persons were killed by motor vehicles.

Mr. Ned Dearborn, President of the National Safety Council, which had predicted 240 deaths, called the figure "a disaster," China Mail Special.

PIERRE BRASSEUR
MIRANDA FAURE

RASPOUTINE

COMING TO LEE and GREAT WORLD

Bayer's TONIC

POP

ROBIN - SEE WHAT THAT KNOCKING IS ABOUT, OUT FRONT!

IT'S A MAN WITH A BILL, POO!

A MAN WITH A BILL, THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE.

IT MUST BE A WOODPECKER.



The dog isn't so sure that he likes this other animal that has been brought into the house, but 13-year-old Jennifer Golding knits on without concern as her 18-year-old brother Robert plays with the four-foot-long royal python that is his favourite pet. The snake is just one of the reptiles Robert keeps in his Downend, Bristol, home. So fond is he of snakes that he spends all his school holidays doing voluntary work in the reptile house of the Bristol Zoo. -Reuterphoto.

Western Powers Contemplate Replies To Russia

London, Jan. 3.

The Western Big Three powers have opened consultations on whether and what to reply to Moscow's avalanche of diplomatic notes in recent weeks, Foreign Office officials disclosed today.

The Kremlin warned the Big Three Western powers in notes of December 9 of the consequences of ratification of the Paris accords. It warned France and Britain shortly afterwards that ratification would "cancel" its treaties of friendship with the two Western democracies.

Moscow, in notes to Britain and the U.S., moreover asked for an "explanation" of reports that American air bases in Britain harboured aircraft designed for atomic attack on Russia.

FULL AGREEMENT

The U.S. and Britain are in full agreement that any four-power talks now would prejudice the ratification of the accords.

France was believed here to be again holding out informally for a May meeting with Russia. Britain and the U.S. would, according to informed sources, not oppose it if the Paris agreements are set in motion by that date. But they decline to commit themselves to a firm date now. -United Press.

FRANCO-TUNISIAN DEADLOCK

Paris, Jan. 3.

The Franco-Tunisian negotiations have reached a deadlock on three main issues, education, police and justice.

These negotiations, which have been going on here for some months, are to be raised to the ministerial level sometime this week.

As far as the police question is concerned, the Tunisian representatives have stood out for an immediate transfer of all police commands, excepting frontier-guards and national security forces from the French to the Tunisians.

As far as educational and cultural questions are concerned, the Tunisians claim that Tunisians should be given complete control of all national education establishments while a French mission should be allowed to act within specifically limited fields.

LEGAL SYSTEM

The Tunisian delegation has also pressed for a legal system based on an essentially Tunisian juridical framework.

Only Franco-Tunisian disputes would be handled by the Franco-Tunisian courts, according to the Tunisian point of view, while the French position is that native courts should judge cases in which only Tunisians are involved. Franco-Tunisian courts should judge Franco-Tunisian cases and French courts should judge cases between Frenchmen and foreigners.

Despite the Franco-Tunisian differences of opinion on legal, educational and police questions, it was believed that the Tunisian delegation to the Franco-Tunisian talks would not press for the setting up of a Tunisian army without French control nor for Tunisian diplomatic representation abroad on an independent basis. -France-Press.

QUEEN'S & ALHAMBRA

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A CHINESE PICTURE

Queer bird

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LADY JEBB DECLARES WAR ON THE BIDET

This is not the limit of Lady Jebb's enterprise. Earlier she found there were too many trees in the Embassy garden. She ordered seven trees to be felled and had two rose and

QUOTE of the week: Ambassador Sir Gladwyn Jebb — "There seems to be an idea in some quarters that ambassadors should live in bed-sitting-rooms."

NO. THERE IS NO TRUTH IN THE RUMOUR : : :

1. That Senator McCarthy is to pay a state visit to Moscow to receive the	2. That Mr. Molotov is to be a Knight of the Garter too.	3. Or that Mr. Malenkov is off to Washington to be a Marshall Monitor and to help out like in Congress.
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A KINGDOM FOR SALE — PRICE IS £45,000

Explorer and world traveller: organiser of the expedition which flow over Everest in 1933

His rights not only set him above certain laws of England, they give him powers over the island people, numbering 15, and their visitors.

Could Whitehall upset the "king" of Lundy? I do not think it will happen. It would involve complicated legal battles and an immense amount of research.

Surprising, too, it is to find that the granite in Lundy is among the purest in the world. Some of it was used in the construction of the Victoria Embankment in London.

Lundy is almost self-supporting. Goods and mail are brought to the island by boat, but there is a small aeroplane which reduces the three-hour rough-and-tumble sea passage to a journey of about 15 minutes.

There also you will find strange species of life of the field. There is the trapdoor spider, whose real home is in South America. How he got to Lundy no one knows.

difficulty in talks is the sensitive internal situation in Jordan. Although pro-British, and willing to take advice, most Jordanians will not accept direction from London.

Chief problem in Jordan is the rivalry between the newly discovered "Palestinians" and the Arabs west of the Jordan incorporated after the Arab invasion of Palestine in the recent war—and the "Trans-Jordanians", or old-established families east of the river who carved out their country from the Turks in the First World War.

EDEN'S AIM

Also, almost half the population of the country are refugees from the Israel-Arab war. In any attempt to frame a peace between Israel and Jordan, one of the first needs, from the British point of view, is for Jordan to resettile them.

A third problem is the strain on the crack Arab Legion's high morale and prestige in Jordanian society. Its forced inactivity in face of the Israeli border attacks, such as last year's Qibya incident, when 53 people were killed and 400 houses destroyed, is weakening its confidence in its British officers.

— Amid this continued situation, Britain is anxious not to lose her still strong prestige in such a key area.

— And, since most of Jordan's life stung from this unresolved war with Israel, Eden's aim of the new Arab League is likely to be the establishment of an Israeli-Arab peace. That is the first need for a new basis for Middle East defence sought, both by Arab and British.

And at the end of it all the little cemetery on a high point where the waves of the Atlantic pound Lundy with a three-thousand-mile punch behind them.

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Ray and the Bubbles
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WELCOME (RESERVEDLY) TO 1955

By Simon Maynard

remove anyone he considers undesirable; deny a person the right to land; control all fishing catches to a certain distance off shore.

HOW does the world outlook seem for 1955?

It would be nice to say

HISTORY

The last "King" of Lundy was Martin Coles Harman, London financier, who died a few weeks ago leaving no heir. Harman wanted to sell the island to a person who would maintain the rights and privileges of kingship.

The price today is £45,000 — though a reasonable offer would be considered — and the main interest has so far come from America.

Look back into history and see how Lundy, three and a half miles long by less than a mile wide, visible from the Devon coast on a clear day, has grown with the centuries.

It has been a sanctuary for early Christians, a king's retreat, a stronghold of royalty, the nest of English, French, Spanish,

HOW does the world outlook seem for 1955?

It would be nice to say that it has never looked better since the war, that a long vista of peace lies ahead. But it would be no service to the cause of peace to say this.

We start off in 1955 with the knowledge that neither of the two rival camps of East and West can feel exactly pleased with the world outlook. In the East is the realization that the West is steadily going ahead with rearmament with growing unity, and that 1954 saw the creation of a Balkans Pact, which was in its way the most effective, if not the most spectacular piece of statesmanship of the year.

This news could have added up to a vastly improved position for the Western Powers, but for two items on the debit side. Western Union has not proceeded at anything like the pace expected at the beginning of 1934, and the stresses and strains of German rearmament have revealed a deep and in some cases permanent division of opinion in the West, which

the Russians will still be able
to exploit in 1955.

Second is the gradual realization by the West that superiority in atomic and hydrogen bombs is a very mixed blessing. By the time of the last scientific symposium scientists had revealed what many politicians did not dare to say in public—that the development of horror weapons (and especially of the H-bomb) has now reached a pitch where superiority counts for little in the face of the universal race suicide which extensive use of these weapons would bring for both sides.

Three Weaknesses

I expect during 1955 that the Russians will exploit to the utmost these weaknesses in the Western position. If they fail to make sensational moves to cash in on these "hidden dividends," I shall be much surprised.

The West must do some serious thinking to defeat such Russian moves. But the important question at the moment is to draw away their attention from these "hidden dividends."

It is my thinking that there is no danger that the Russians have with the new situation.

of that gallant and far-sighted individualist, General Ridgeway, who has had lengthy battles inside the Pentagon on the future strategy of the Western Powers.

Why did NATO HQ put out to newspaper correspondents semi-official conclusions about the probable shape of nuclear war on the eve of the French debate on ratification of the Western Union agreements?

It seemed an odd time to choose, and it had the immediate effect of making a Christmas present of an argument to the opponents of German rearmament. Presented with NATO's conclusions as to what the latest horror weapons

—not altogether ineffectively
that there was no need for such
armament, since any future
war would be settled by atomic
bombs and not personnel.
Therefore, he claimed, German
armament, which was a risk
factor, was unnecessary.

This is not the first time that
NATO's "back-door" national
policy has been exposed. In
1954, the Soviet Union, which
is a full member of the
Council, was being controlled
completely by the politicians
of the Western Bloc.

been absolute gift to the
Bevanites.

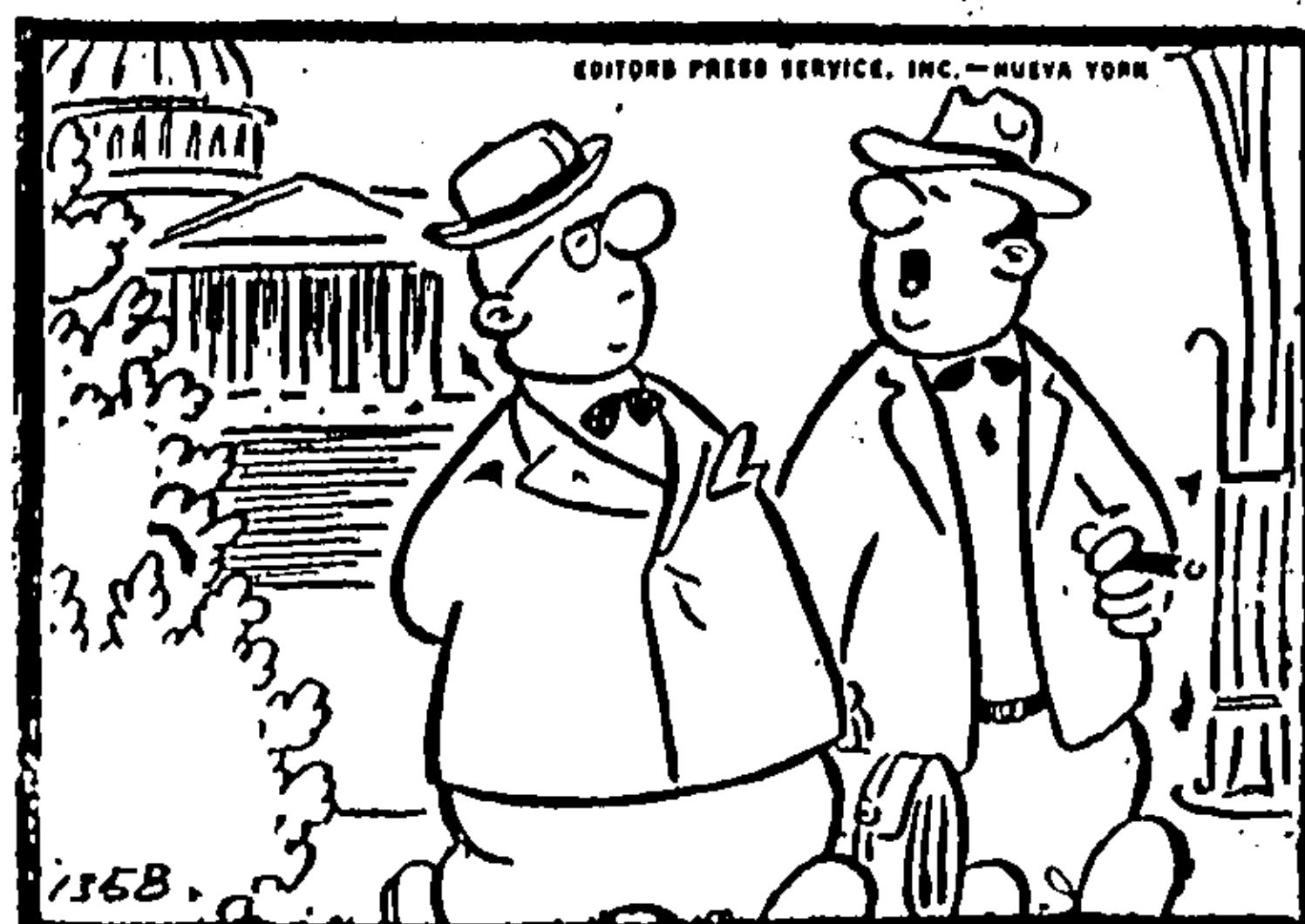
to provoke a new wave of "neutrality," or to build up a case for the defeatists, who say civil defence is useless, then NATO's spokesmen have provided it.

The case should have been stated by politicians who have the authority to say exactly what the logical implications of NATO's firepower are. For example, one NATO spokesman alleged that World War III would be all over in a matter of a few weeks, and that for some countries, such as Britain, the result would be decided within 30 hours.

Damning Admission

There was also the damning admission that Britain's ability to survive more than a couple of H-bombs might depend on the way the wind was blowing at the time.

Now it is high time that the Western Powers stated a policy on all this. But the time to do it is surely after Western Union is 600,000,000 percent stronger, more unified and when German rearmament is accepted by all.



BY THE WAY

by Beachcomber

DR STRABISMUS (Whom God Preserve) of Utrecht has been severely criticised by Professor Plungert in the Nuclear Weekly.

The Professor writes: "Any nation which is striving towards the ideal of strength through fear will meet with derision this tiny Q-bomb, incapable of cracking an egg. There are already indications that, encouraged by Strabismus, experts in biological warfare are experimenting with harmless germs that would not hurt a fly, and with a method by which wells would be only slightly poisoned. If this example of criminal folly were to spread, and the more chivalrous warfare of our unenlightened ancestors were to take the place of the streamlined efficiency of the twentieth century, we should only have the obscurantist and reactionary scientist of Waggling Perva to blame."

Put your boy into politics. An article about methods of attracting the best type of man into politics is very timely. The type required is one who will promise never to have any principles which might interfere with his subservience to the Party whip; a fine, decent, upstanding fellow, with no nonsense of conscience or honour about him. And if those who elect him expect him to be more than a mere machine

YOUR BIRTHDAY ... By STELLA

TUESDAY, JANUARY 4

BORN today, you have one of those quick minds which like to deal with new and interesting problems. You also have an inventive streak and it is possible that your fame and fortune could come from a laboratory. In addition to this, your intuitions are more highly developed than most and you are not slow to use an insight into people and their minds. In a highly competitive world, this talent can be used to a distinct advantage.

At an early age, learn to select a profession and stick to it. Do not deviate from your original intent and you will reach exceptional success. You enjoy travel and will probably see a great deal of the world's surface during your lifetime. If not during the early years, it may come when you have made your "pile," have retired, and are not doing some of the things you have missed. You are so energetic that even in retirement, you will want to be active.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23-Jan. 20)—Perhaps a friend can be of invaluable help to you just now. Don't hesitate to accept aid.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)—Possibly concerned about your fame ahead of you, will give you a "boost-up" for old-time sake!

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)—It is possible that you may be disappointed in a plan you made. Be ready to make a quick change.

ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 20)—Some hidden talent may come to light today and be of great value to your bid for promotion or a salary raise.

Taurus (Apr. 21-May 21)—Give a thought to someone you love. Perhaps there is an anniversary that you should remember.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21)—You may be able to increase your income by taking advantage of an offer made you.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)—It may be that someone from your past will come back into your life to bring you joy and happiness.

L.E.O. (July 23-Aug. 23)—You may be the recipient of a surprise gift which you can bring some great deal of pleasure in the future.

VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 23)—Be alert to even the smallest chance for advancement today. The opportunity could make your future.

LIBRA (Sept. 24-Oct. 23)—Don't attempt to solve your own legal problems. Get expert advice to save trouble in the long run.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 23)—This could be a good, long evening for a good book. Proper and relaxed tensions in order.

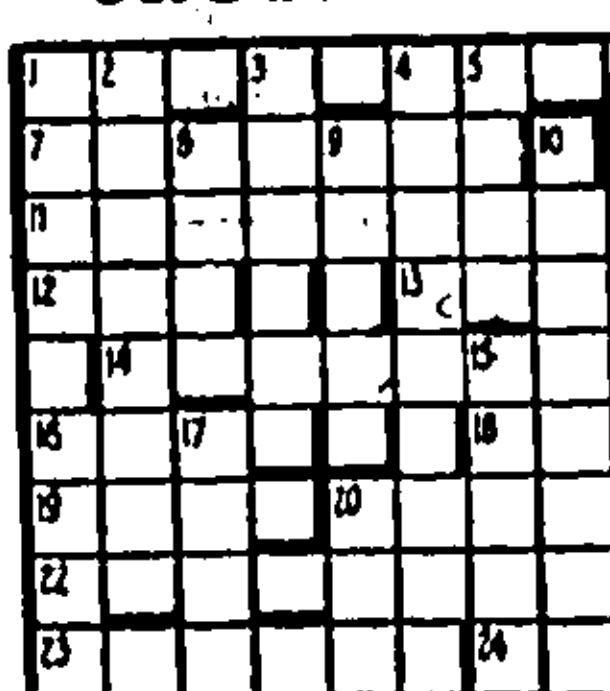
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 24-Dec. 23)—A new idea may burst upon you.

DUMB-BELLS

REMEMBER! THE PATIENT MUST BE KEPT IN A GOOD SPIRIT.

BUT DOCTOR HE DOESN'T DRINK.

CROSSWORD



Across

- Lead nothing with a spur outside. (9)
- It may be a gag or a reminder of the old school. (7)
- Four mined (anag.). (9)
- Kind of rumour. (8)
- Common Latin name for a flower. (4)
- Often describes the twins. (8)
- Giftbearing excursions had a little one. (8)
- Peasome, when it's an eye. (4)
- Hall to these. (8)
- Preserve a mixture. (9)
- Party frolics have these in common with some windows. (8)
- Alman's name for an almanac. (8)

Down

- Old-time Customs often baffled them. (9)
- Carried out this kind of expedition against the 4. (9)
- Down. (9)
- Down. (9)
- Down. (9)
- Down. (9)
- Down. (9)
- Down. (9)
- Down. (9)
- Down. (9)
- Down. (9)
- Down. (9)

JACOBY ON BRIDGE

Take An Expert To Explain This Hand

By OSWALD JACOBY

TODAY'S hand was very difficult to play accurately, and it's likewise difficult to explain. The contract depended on accurate timing, and in order to see this it is also necessary to see how a different line of play would lead to defeat. Let's begin with the right play.

West opened the ace of hearts and then switched to a low diamond. Declarer won in dummy with the king of diamonds and looked for a way to ruff out his two remaining hearts, set up a club trick, cash a club, and draw trumps. After some thought he returned the king of clubs from the dummy.

West won with the ace of clubs and returned another diamond. Declarer won in dummy with the ace of diamonds and carefully studied the queen of clubs before embarking on his crossruff. Now he ruffed a club in his hand, ruffed a heart in dummy, ruffed another club in his hand, and ruffed his last heart in dummy. The rest was just a matter of conceding the ace of trumps and claiming his doubled game contract.

The general principle is to establish and cash as many tricks as possible in the side suits before you begin a crossruff. If you fail to do this, an opponent may discard during the cross-

NORTH 13		SOUTH 13	
♠ 7 5		♠ 7 5	
♥ 9		♥ 9	
♦ A K 7 3		♦ A K 7 3	
♣ A K 8 4		♣ A K 8 4	
WEST (D)		EAST	
♠ None		♠ A 4 3 2	
♥ A 8 4 2		♥ K Q J 10 5	
♦ Q J 9 4		♦ 10 3	
♣ A J 9 5 2		♣ 10 6	
SOUTH		NORTH	
♠ K Q J 10 9 6		♠ 7 5	
♥ 7 6 3		♥ 9	
♦ 6 2		♦ A K 7 3	
♣ 7 3		♣ A K 8 4	
Both sides vul.		Both sides vul.	
West North East South		West North East South	
1 ♠ 2 ♠ 3 ♠ 4 ♠		1 ♠ 2 ♠ 3 ♠ 4 ♠	
2 ♥ 3 ♥ 4 ♥ 5 ♥		2 ♥ 3 ♥ 4 ♥ 5 ♥	
Pass Pass Double Pass		Pass Pass Double Pass	
Opening lead—♥ A		Opening lead—♥ A	

ruff, and then you may never be able to get some of your tricks in the side suits.

For example, South would have lost his contract if he had begun by cashing the top diamonds and ruffing a diamond instead of developing his club trick. On the third round of diamonds East would gladly discard a club. This would prevent South from developing a club trick.

After beginning in this inaccurate way South could lead a club without allowing West to take the ace of clubs and give his partner a club ruff. If South tried to draw trumps first, East could take the ace of trumps and lead a club himself. Other defenses might work equally well, but at least there would be this way to defeat the contract.

CARD SENSE

By MAX TRELL

Q—The bidding has been: North East South West
1 Diamond Pass 1 Spade Pass
2 Clubs Pass

You, South, hold: Spades K-Q-9-7-3, Hearts 8-2, Diamonds 9-8-6-2, Clubs 5-4. What do you do?

A—Bid two diamonds. You hate to speak a second time with so poor a hand, but you must show that you prefer diamonds since you have four diamonds and only two clubs.

TODAY'S QUESTION

The bidding is the same as in the question just answered. You, South, hold: Spades K-Q-9-7-3, Hearts 8-2, Diamonds K-9-6-2, Clubs J-5-4. What do you do?

Answer Tomorrow

CHESS PROBLEM

By L. LARSEN

Black, 12 pieces.



White to play; mate in three.

WOMANSENSE

Lilac And Grey For Springtime



In tweed with a jacquard finish, this elegant London designed springtime suit is in lilac and grey. Piped with braid on the collar, it has tab pockets.

The PARTY BORE

PARTY PATTEN comes easy to some lucky people. To others, particularly the very young, it presents an agony of doubts and indecision.

Social Success cannot be achieved in six easy lessons. But there are certain safe subjects—like food, wine, music, news, sports, travel, and jobs, both your own and the other chap's.

CONVERSATION KILLERS include accounts of illness or aches and pains; descriptions of brighter parties and better company the night before, and risqué stories told to strangers.

Other roles not to play are the War Bore, the Proud Mother, and the Life and Soul of the Party, who laughs and talks too long and too loud.

—(London Express Service).

BOYS' AND GIRLS' MAGAZINE HEARTY SOUPS

O'Scowl's Sweeping Job

—He's Cleaning Up the Great Outdoors—

By MAX TRELL

PIXIE O'Scowl looked even grumpier than usual when Knarf and Hanid, the shadow-children with the turned-about names, met him. The grumbling Pixie (for reasons of his own, he hardly ever smiled) was just coming up from O'Cheer Hall in the roots of the Old Oak. O'Cheer Hall was where the Pixies lived.

This evening Pixie O'Scowl was dressed in his worst clothes. He wore torn overalls, ragged

hat, shoes with his toes hanging out.

"Why, Pixie O'Scowl," exclaimed Hanid in a voice that showed how surprised she was, "you look just like a scarecrow!"

"Too to that," snorted Pixie O'Scowl. "I don't care if I look like ten scarecrows."

"You're certainly in a bad humour tonight," Knarf said.

Pixie O'Scowl didn't answer this. At the head of the stairs leading up from O'Cheer Hall was a big wooden bin in which the Pixies kept all their gardening and household tools. Pixie O'Scowl opened the door and took out a broom. He then slammed the door shut (Pixie O'Scowl always slammed doors just to show how mad he felt about things in general), put the broom over his shoulder and started walking down the path leading to the Pine Tree Grove.

"See you some other time," he grunted to Knarf and Hanid.

Knarf and Hanid trotted after him down the path.

"Oh, I thought you were going to sweep O'Cheer Hall," Hanid said.

"Nonsense," said Pixie O'Scowl, "that isn't my intention."

"Then what are you going to do with that broom? What ARE you going to sweep?"

A Big Task

"Hills and valleys and fields and woods," replied Pixie O'Scowl, walking away faster than ever.

Knarf and Hanid trotted after him faster than ever. Finally they reached the Pine Tree Grove.

Here, to their surprise, Pixie O'Scowl leaned the broom against a pine tree, took a pair of ragged-looking gloves out of his pocket, put them on, then picked up the broom and started sweeping the ground around the trees.

"You're sweeping the pine needles!" Knarf said.

"And the pine cones!" said Hanid.

"Do it every year," Pixie O'Scowl grumbled. "Somebody's got to do it. And of course," he went on, swishing the broom

Will the mother give birth to a baby endowed with artistic abilities if she listens to beautiful music during pregnancy? ... Is the baby's birthmark attributed to any object seen by its mother while she was expecting? ... Read on and let the doctor tell you about

Pre-natal Influence

By W. W. BAUER, M.D.

ONE of the most firmly rooted of all popular beliefs about life and health is that the unborn child can be marked by experiences of the mother during pregnancy. This has usually taken the form of attributing to "maternal impressions" the appearance of birthmarks or skin blemishes which take the imagined form of spiders or other objects which are objectionable to certain persons.

Doctors have consistently denied this possibility, because most of these birthmarks are formed very early in pregnancy, and usually have existed for some time before the event which was supposed to have caused them. Then, too, there is no physical connection between the nervous system of the mother and that of the child. There exists no known mechanism by which physical changes of this kind could occur.

But science keeps constantly testing and reappraising its conclusions, no matter how solidly grounded they may appear to be. Under grants from the Josiah Macy Foundation, research at Rutgers University and elsewhere indicates that there is very definite prenatal influence in the emotional realm, and that the infant in the uterus is not so completely isolated from outside influences as has been believed.

Observed Factors

For example, a buzzer held close to the maternal body near the baby's head produces violent movements, indicating that the well-known sensitivity of the newborn to sudden noises is not acquired after birth. Abnormal breathing, and even cough-like reflexes, are known to occur, and of course the movements of limbs and body are well-known to every mother, and are among the useful indications to the doctor that the pregnancy is going normally.

Recent research, based on observations that certain babies appear to be born in an emotionally disturbed condition, not attributable to heredity, and due to no demonstrable physical abnormality. In many instances such births have terminated a pregnancy in which there were severe emotional upsets in the mother, due to a variety of reasons.

Studies of the activity of the unborn have indicated that fatigue of the mother may cause more activity on the part of the baby. Unborn babies tend to be more active in mothers who have the most activity in that

also pass through the membranes from mother to baby. It is these which affect his movements, his irritability, and his nervousness, even after birth.

Listening to beautiful music or viewing fine paintings will not produce corresponding artistic ability in the unborn. Nevertheless, such occupations may help the baby if they keep the mother serene and her body chemistry in stable equilibrium.

All this is but confirmation of such observations as that of Samuel Taylor Coleridge, who remarked 100 years ago, "The history of man for nine months preceding his birth would probably be far more interesting than the three-score and 10 years that follow." And in the first chapter of the Gospel of Luke, we read that when the news of Mary's conception came to her cousin Elizabeth, she cried, "The babe leaped in my womb for joy."

—(Continued on page 7)

FASHIONABLE MUFFS



Muffs are favourite winter fashion in Paris. Shown above is a fur muff which includes a bag.—Agence France-Press.

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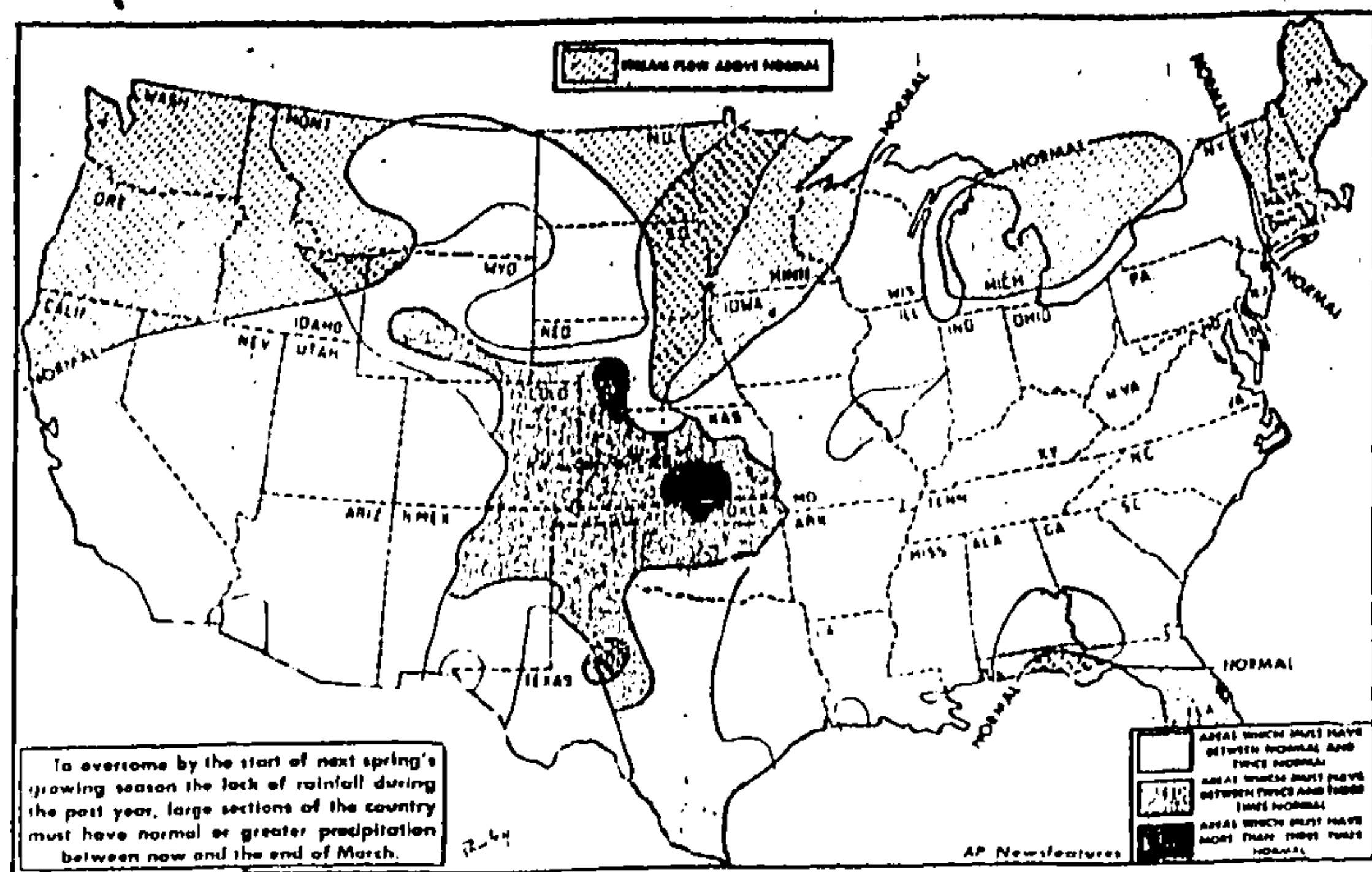
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Heavy Rains Badly Needed In Middle U.S.

By HERMAN R. ALLEN
Associated Press Newsfeatures Writer

For two years now, the rustle of drought-parched corn and stunted grass and the bawling of thirsty cattle have echoed louder across an ever spreading slice in central, southern and western sections of the United States.

Days and weeks without rain. Wells going dry. Streams and ponds evaporating. Precipitation deficiencies have been building up until a vast area farming out from western Texas finds it will have to have nothing less than 100 per cent normal precipitation from now until the start of next spring's planting season to overcome the 1954 shortage let alone the carryover deficiency from last year.

Within this area outlined on the accompanying map, one or two inches of rain will have to get at least twice the normal December-March precipitation to regain 1954 losses.

And some smaller areas must have three times the normal amount.

Naturally, it's hoped too much that the entire rain-short area will get normal precipitation right straight through until spring. And it's quite unlikely that very many places will get twice or three times the normal. What's more, they probably would simply be trading one disaster for another if they did—floods in the Rio Grande Valley and Pecos River basin this past year testified.

Nevertheless, the parched soil and natural subterranean reservoirs of the area could take up a lot of water. Streamflow—a good indicator of ground water supply—is far below normal over most of the drought belt. Test wells in some places are at the lowest level on record.

Some areas not indicated on the map were seriously struck by drought during 1954, even though their needs would be taken care of if they get rainfall in amounts less than normal for the December-March period. In many cases, however, that's a pretty big if.

On the other hand, a few parts of the Southwest drought area are not too badly off even though they will require fully normal precipitation to catch up. If normal is only two inches or so a year, a one-inch shortage may not cause too big a problem.

An index of the extent of the drought's toll is provided in the list of states—18 of them—which have been declared eligible in whole or in part for federal disaster relief.

Farmers in all counties of Oklahoma and South Carolina have been declared eligible for assistance in the purchase of seed and livestock feed. The breakdown in the other 16 states:

Alabama, 58 out of 67 counties; Arkansas 69 of 75; Colorado 22 of 63; Georgia 124 of 159; Kansas 4 of 105; Louisiana 28 of 64; Mississippi 38 of 82; Missouri 82 of 114; Nevada 13 of 17; New Mexico 24 of 31; North Carolina 39 of 100; Tennessee 88 of 95; Texas 119 of 254; Utah 6 of 29; Virginia 29 of 100; Wyoming 19 of 24.

Guests Were Served With Pearls

Ten green vases, each filled with 10,000 pearls, set in a Japanese Buddhist shrine, and glistening pearl necklaces round the necks of thousands of women all over the world are the monuments of a Japanese who in the first years of his life earned a few cents a day, but died one of the wealthiest men of his country.

Kokichi Mikimoto, who died last September at the age of 90, created a new industry—cultivated pearls.

Known as the "Pearl King," he was the first man to discover how to mass produce a jewel once so rare that it was called "the tears of the Moon."

Born of parents too poor to give him any education, Mikimoto in his early years scraped a meagre living as a "barrow boy" selling noodles and vegetables, lobsters and other sea foods, and in the cold winter months hawking hot sweet potatoes.

At the age of 12, he told his parents that his ambition was to become the third richest man in the little native town of Toba, centre of a pearling district in western Japan.

He had always shown an insatiable curiosity about his home town's main industry. For years, he puzzled that there must be some way to speed up and control nature's way of producing a pearl: a grain of sand or other foreign matter lodged in an oyster.

He abandoned his barrow and at Ago Bay, near Toba, busily collected oysters, prised open their shells and inserted a grain of sand or a shaving of mother-of-pearl.

For nearly three years, during which he lost almost his entire stock of oysters after an invasion of red plankton—an oyster-killing pest, he failed to produce a single pearl.

Debts mounted, and neighbors began to call him the "Pearl Maniac."

To get the best possible conditions, protected from sudden winds and tides and hostile fish, he moved to an uninhabited island off Toba, called Takoku, where he developed a seabed farm covering nearly 700 acres.

He soon began to discover an increasing number of pearls, but he was not satisfied; he had to produce the perfect round pearl.

He discovered his first in 1903, when he had about one million oysters laid over the bed of the ocean.

This revealed the secret. He always put the foreign matter between the shell and the flesh of the oyster. But in the oyster which produced the perfect pearl, the matter had become embedded in the oyster's flesh itself.

Even then, on his experiments developed into a major industry. In 1953, Japan exported nearly 5,000,000 dollars' (about \$1,750,000) worth of cultured pearls, of which 97 per cent went to the United States.

The industry today almost monopolises the world market. Nearly all came from Mikimoto's company.

When his cultured pearls began to appear in foreign countries, offered at prices one quarter of those for natural pearls, pearl dealers raised a storm of protest and accused Mikimoto of flooding the world with cheap imitations in lieu of comparable to the genuine article.

The protests culminated in a law suit in Paris. Leading scientists won the case for Mikimoto. They pronounced his pearls completely genuine, and impossible, except under special X-ray and specific gravity tests, to differentiate from natural pearls.

But Mikimoto, with the pride of the inventor, still stuck to his label "cultured pearls," so that the world would know who had produced them. He was always generous with

the pearls which made him rich.

In 1901, before he had produced his first perfect pearl, he presented a selection of the first pearls available to him to the British Crown, for the Coronation of Edward VII.

At the International Exhibition in Philadelphia in 1926 he displayed a five-storyed pagoda, three feet high, studded with about 200,000 pearls worth 250,000 dollars.

His contribution to the Chicago International Exhibition in 1934 was a pearl model of Mount Vernon, its courtyard paved with thousands of jewels and the Stars and Stripes flag made of pearls.

After the exhibition, Mikimoto gave the exhibit to the Smithsonian Institute in Washington.

At his home on Takoku Island, which had come to be known as "The Pearl Island," he would serve his guests with oysters. Inside, they would always find a perfect cultured pearl.

When the patent on Mikimoto's method of cultivating pearls expired in 1921, scores of newcomers, eager to cash in on quick profits, dumped thousands of poor grade pearls on the world market.

But Mikimoto worked ceaselessly to improve his pearls and the methods of cultivating them. During his lifetime he registered more than 20 patents, many of them covering devices to protect his oysters from predatory enemies.

In spite of his enormous wealth, he lived a frugal life. He always refused to install either refrigerator or electric fans in his house for the hot Japanese summers. In the bitter cold of winter he lived in unheated rooms, considering even the traditional Japanese charcoal brazier an unnecessary luxury.

Much of his wealth was used to build schools, workers' houses, public utilities, and relieve the distress of the poor—China Mail Special.

World Cotton Markets

New York, Jan. 3.
Cotton prices saw-sawed narrowly today in quiet dealings.

The market opened on a dull note with hedging and mill buying in balance, and failed to develop any feature during the remainder of the session.

The possibility of freer producer offerings held many traders to the sidelines. They also were awaiting developments in the cotton textile and export markets.

Some switching from nearby March to later month was reported. The New York Cotton Exchange reported exports to foreign countries up to Dec. 28 of 1,473,839 bales, compared with 1,200,215 bales the like period last season.

Prices softened near the close on some increased hedging and liquidation, and all contracts with the exception of far-off May closed on their lows for the day. The closing range was 6 to 11 points lower. Opened unchanged to 3 points lower. New Orleans futures finished 8 to 12 points lower.

Trading volumes and open interests in the Exchange today were:

Month	Volume	Open Interest
March	30,700	372,000
May	20,400	1,139,000
July	9,000	601,200
October	5,800	154,700
December	2,900	102,400
March	2,100	40,400
May	71,000	52,200
Total	71,000	2,068,000

NEW YORK

Prices of futures closed today as follows:

Spot	32.10a
Mar	34.65-66
May	33.07
July	32.11
Oct	30.08
Dec	30.06
Mar	30.11
May	30.31a

NEW ORLEANS

Prices of futures closed today as follows:

Spot	34.15
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July	33.12
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SAO PAULO

Sao Paulo, Jan. 3.

The futures market was closed today because of a holiday.

The average price of 15/16 middling cotton at ten designated spot markets was also unavailable. Sales at nine of these markets totalled 33,007 bales.

The Liverpool cotton prices were not received today—United Press.

New York Sugar Market

New York, Jan. 3.

World No. 4 sugar futures today closed unchanged with sales of 6 contracts.

Domestic No. 6 sugar futures closed higher with sales of one contract.

The raw market was a very dull affair. In the domestic, Puerto Ricans and Philippines were quoted at six cents a pound, delivered, with some Philippines reported at 5.59 cents.

Future closings:
Contract No. 4 (world)
March 3.17
May 3.20
July 3.17
September 3.17
Spot (cents per lb. 100 Cane) 3.17

Contract No. 5
March 3.17
May 3.20
July 3.17
September 3.17
Spot (cents per lb. 100 Cane) 3.17

TRADE and COMMERCE SECTION

NO DEPRESSION JITTERS

1954 Was Not A Bad Year In America After All

By JOHN MORKA

New York, Jan. 3.

There was a noticeable lack of depression jitters among American business as 1954 drew to a close as the second best year in U.S. economic history.

Gone was the year-ago concern that the U.S. was heading for economic trouble in 1954. Instead, it now appears that 1954 wasn't so bad a year after all, and there's a more confident tone everywhere.

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September 3.17
Spot (cents per lb. 100 Cane) 3.17

Unemployment Appears To Have Been Checked For The Moment

Inventories are just about liquidated. Plant and equipment expenditures are holding at favorable levels. Construction is booming.

On the whole, there is a general feeling that U.S. economy will at least equal if not surpass 1954 levels this year.

Best summarizing the national attitude, the Guaranty Trust Company of New York had this to say:

"Opinions differ, of course, as to the exact degree of business improvement this year, but on one point, there is wide agreement. Almost no one foresees a sharp rise. The general feeling seems to be that the mild recession of the past year and a half will be followed by a mild recovery. Few people seem to think that industrial production or gross national product will average as high as in 1953. Even fewer expect the 1953 peaks for these measures to be topped. However, 1955 is given a pretty good chance of replacing 1954 as the second best year in the country's business history."

The year 1954 had two major surprises: The rise in construction expenditures and the booming stock market.

A year ago, the U.S. Government forecast a decline of 2 per cent in total spending for new work put in place. Instead, it now appears that will be a gain of about 5 per cent. The billions spent in new building has helped boost the U.S. economy and taken up the slack which developed in some quarters.

Stock market bullishness in 1954 saw percentage increases

REINVESTMENT

To all this one can add a few billion of profits that have been retained in recent profit-taking which has been in progress without doing much, if any harm to the market as a whole. Reinvestment of these funds is expected to be an important market factor. The authoritative Standard and Poor's thinks that a large proportion of accruing funds will be channeled into equities.

"In putting additional funds to work," Standard and Poor warns, "investors should recognize that the chances are against another year marked by the speculative advances of 1954 assuming no shock to sentiment, the ingredients are present for continuing strong stock markets in 1955, subject to normal corrections."

On the international trade front, prospects for the passage of President Eisenhower's foreign trade program along more liberalized lines appear to have improved as the new Congress convenes under Democratic leadership. President Eisenhower, who had to settle for a one-year extension of the reciprocal trade program last year after encountering strong Congressional opposition, will make a strong recommendation for his program in his State of the Union speech.

BITTER BATTLE

Strong bi-partisan backing is expected to facilitate passage of the program aimed at reducing U.S. tariffs over a three-year period. Nevertheless, the battle over the proposed legislation will be bitter.

However, it is expected that a major administration effort will be made to push the legislation through. It was felt that earlier this year, the President's willingness to settle for a one-year extension of the trade program without accompanying authority of reducing tariffs might have been influenced in part by strictly political considerations not to create intra-party strife before the November elections. With the Congressional campaign now a thing of the past, it was felt that at least one major trade bill would be liberalizing the U.S. economic policy has now been lifted—United Press.

Bright Outlook In America

New York, Jan. 3.
The 1955 outlook for industry is excellent and business will probably top the year 1954 by five per cent, the President of the National Association of Manufacturers declared. The Congress of Industrial Organizations, on the other hand, said that no return to full employment was in sight and that substantially expanded consumer spending was necessary.—China Mail Special.

HONGKONG STOCK EXCHANGE

(From Our Correspondent)

Business done on the Hongkong Stock Exchange this morning amounted to \$1,787,507.50. Noon quotations and the morning's transactions:

SHARES BUYERS SELLERS SALES

BANKS	1000	2000	50	1000
HSBC	1000	2000	50	1000
Union	1000	2000	50	1000
Lombard	1000	2000	50	1000

INSURANCES

Union	1000	2000	50	1000
Lombard	1000	2000	50	1000

SHIPPING

Andam	1000	2000	50	1000
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DOCKS, ETC.

Wharf	1000	2000	50	1000
Dock	1000	2000	50	1000

PROVIDENT

Wharf	1000	2000	50	1000
Dock	1000	2000	50	1000

LAND, ETC.

HSBC	1000	2000	50	1000
Union	1000	2000	50	1000

UTILITIES

HSBC	1000	2000	50	1000
Union	1000	2000	50	1000

STOCKS, ETC.

HSBC	1000	2000	50	1000
Union	1000	2000	50	1000

INDUSTRIALS

HSBC	1000	2000	50	1000
Union	1000	2000	50	1000

REINVESTMENT

HSBC	1000	2000	50	1000
Union	1000	2000	50	1000

WORLD RUBBER MARKETS

London, Jan. 3.

The rubber market was quiet. No. 1 RSS spot quoted at 21½ pence per lb. Prices:

No. 1 RSS spot	21½-21¾
February	21-21½
March	20-20½
April	19-19½
May	18-18½
June	17-17½
July	16-16½
August	15-15½
September	14-14½
October	13-13½
November	12-12½
December	11-11½
General market off basis, ports:	
January	20-20½
February	19-19½
March	18-18½
April	17-17½
May	16-16½
June	15-15½
July	14-14½
August	13-13½
September	12-12½
October	11-11½
November	10-10½
December	9-9½

NEW YORK

New York, Jan. 3.

CROSSLEY BROTHERS LTD.
MARINE, STATIONARY & AUXILIARY.
MARINE DIESEL ENGINES.
ENGINEERING EQUIPMENT CO. LTD.
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CHINA MAIL

LARGEST
WRITING
MILEAGE
GUARANTEED
SHEAFFER'S
Fineline
"500"
RETRACTABLE BALLPOINT PEN

Page 10 TUESDAY, JANUARY 4, 1955.

Sparks Fly At Bailey Trial: Judge Asks For 'Yes' Or 'No' Answers

Sparks flew this morning in the cross-examination of Albert Francis Bailey, 33-year-old merchant, on trial at the Criminal Sessions for alleged libel.

The Judge, Mr. Justice Reynolds, complained that Bailey could not give the simplest answer to the simplest question.

The Prosecutor, Solicitor-General, Mr. Arthur Hooton, QC, accused Bailey of being chronic in his impertinence.

The defendant, Bailey, maintained that he did not want to be tricked into saying something which was not true.

OWN DEFENCE

Bailey, who is conducting his own defence, is alleged to have maliciously published defamatory letters in the form of letters to Messrs P. H. Sin, Y. H. Chan and S. K. Yee.

The Prosecution is conducted by Mr. Hooton, and Mr. D. N. E. Hea, Crown Counsel, both assisted by Det-Sgt-Inpector R. Dudson.

Mr. Hooton cross-examined Bailey on the Fung Tse Lok Restaurant transaction in 1951 and 1952 and on his instructions to Mr. Peter Sin.

Bailey agreed with the Solicitor-General that he was a suspicious man. "Believe me I am certainly a suspicious man. I have reason to doubt everything connected with this restaurant," Bailey declared.

AN EXCUSE

Mr. Hooton pointed out that according to a solicitor's letter Bailey lost the restaurant because he did not pay the rent.

That was just an excuse, Bailey replied. Actually the people concerned had far greater interests. "The reason why we did not pay rent must be on the shoulders of Peter Sin," he stated.

He added that the rent was paid in the manner advised by Mr. Sin and the lease was terminated because the man in whose name it was, was not in Hongkong.

The Judge admonished Bailey for not answering "yes" or "no" to Mr. Hooton's question as to whether it was agreed before he went to see Mr. Sin on May 28, 1952 that a man, Leung Fat,

was to surrender the tenancy of the restaurant.

Bailey wanted to give an explanation and the Judge required him to give an answer.

"I could not have agreed to that because I had not even thought of it," said Bailey.

"Then the answer is no," said the Judge.

"But it is neither yes nor no. I had not agreed to it and I had not disagreed to it," said Bailey.

When Mr. Hooton referred to a note made by Mr. Sin about instructions to pay \$10,000 to the landlord, Bailey remarked that "what Mr. Sin recorded in most places was completely crooked."

"I was not there when he wrote that down. If I had been there Peter Sin would have said, 'There is no note made by Mr. Sin about instructions to pay \$10,000 to the landlord,' Bailey remarked.

A CHEAT? WHY? Mr. Hooton wanted to know why Mr. Sin, a man of wealth, should want to cheat Bailey.

"There is a motive in most criminals. They cheat someone who gives them something. It is more simple to be honest than to cheat someone. Most people like Peter Sin want some more and they don't care how they get it," said Bailey.

He denied Mr. Hooton's contention that he was fashioning other people on his own image, saying, "I certainly have not that habit."

Bailey agreed that Mr. Sin did pay \$10,000 to the lessor as he was intended to pay, but it was not meant to be paid in the name of Mao Jen-shan, he added.

DISTORTION ALLEGED In reply to further questions Bailey alleged that the Solicitor-General was trying to distort what he said.

Mr. Hooton asked him if he had said he made alterations to the date on a certain cheque.

"I said that the alterations were in my own hand-writing," said Bailey.

Mr. Hooton: Couldn't you have answered "yes" to that?

Bailey: I just want to stick to what I said. The trial is proceeding.

Moscow's Answer To Marilyn Monroe



Anna Lortionova, who is claimed by Moscow to be the Soviet answer to Hollywood's glamorous Marilyn Monroe, 22-year-old Anna is the shapeliest thing behind the 'Iron Curtain' but does not display many of her curves in her bed-time scene from her film 'Anna Cross' for she does not wear a low cut negligee. She is encased in a neck-tight nightie and cuddles a doll. The film was previewed at the Soviet Embassy.—Express Photo.

Grim Warning On H-Bomb Warfare

Champaign, Illinois, Jan. 3.

The University of Illinois scientists warned tonight that even a "small" hydrogen bomb war could produce a "creeping suicide" that would wipe mankind off the face of the earth over a period of hundreds of years.

Drs. Eugene Rabinowitch and Henry Quastler said that the least understood but "perhaps most dangerous" aspect of the H-bomb was the long-range damage to heredity which could be caused by radioactivity.

"We don't know how much radioactivity it will take to make any sizeable change in heredity—in the kind of children that would be born in future generations," said Dr. Quastler. "But we do know that radioactivity will have some effect."

Dr. Quastler said repeated H-bomb explosions would fill the atmosphere with radioactivity and the effects would continue on the populace for hundreds of years.

EVENTUAL FATE

"It would be possible to explode enough hydrogen bombs for mankind to commit a creeping suicide," said Dr. Quastler. "The generation alive at the time may survive, and its children and their children, but the eventual fate of mankind would have been sealed and nothing could be done about it."

The scientists said one form of the danger would be in the heredity traits which parents hand down to their children. They said this would take place only when both parents had been exposed to radiation and its effects on their children would be something akin to "inbreeding."

The greater long-range danger, they said, would be an increase of the "genetically underprivileged"—the persons with mental imbalance, the frail and weak and those susceptible to disease.

Dr. Rabinowitch said the threat to heredity could be produced by "exposure of whole nations and continents to a weak, but widely distributed and persistent radioactivity."

Under such conditions, the two said, mankind might disappear a thousand years from now.—United Press.

Radio Hongkong

HK.T. Time Signal and Programme Summary: 6.30, BBC Bandstand. Manchester C.W. S. Band. 6.50, First Hearing presented by Hugh Sullivan (Studio); 7.00, Commentary on Time Signal and World News (London Relay); 7.05, Musical with Elton Hayes (BBC7B); 7.30, News (Studio); 7.35, News (London Relay); 7.40, News (London Relay); 7.45, News (London Relay); 7.50, News (London Relay); 7.55, News (London Relay); 8.00, News (London Relay); 8.05, News (London Relay); 8.10, News (London Relay); 8.15, News (London Relay); 8.20, News (London Relay); 8.25, News (London Relay); 8.30, News (London Relay); 8.35, News (London Relay); 8.40, News (London Relay); 8.45, News (London Relay); 8.50, News (London Relay); 8.55, News (London Relay); 9.00, News (London Relay); 9.05, News (London Relay); 9.10, News (London Relay); 9.15, News (London Relay); 9.20, News (London Relay); 9.25, News (London Relay); 9.30, News (London Relay); 9.35, News (London Relay); 9.40, News (London Relay); 9.45, News (London Relay); 9.50, News (London Relay); 9.55, News (London Relay); 10.00, News (London Relay); 10.05, News (London Relay); 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